possibly with fur collar and lining. They prefer short black or navy blue overcoats reaching somewhat below the hips. 291

Women wear short blouses of varied cut, mostly with closed necklines, and, over these, tightly fitting vests. Since only a few can afford fur or broadcloth coats, the common type of protection from winter cold is the woolen shawl (vállkendő). The latter is triangular and is thrown over the shoulders, crossed at the waist and knotted in the back.

The Magyar peasant men have their hair cut to a length of one inch. Their pride is the mustache which, unlike the simple haircut, varies widely in shape--from the long waxed and twirled ones to the small well-trimmed mustachios. A beard is rarely seen. Hats have rather narrow rims and fur caps are also worn in the winter. The peasant keeps his headgear on, except in church, many of them even sleeping with their hats over their faces. Unmarried young men decorate their hats with flowers or feathers. 302 [291]

Magyar women, as a rule, do not cut their hair. Little girls and teenagers plait theirs in pigtails, which are loosened only on special occasions. Married women gather up their hair in a knot which can take various patterns and which is fastened with combs, hairpins or simple small wooden sticks

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585 This is the hour at which the bride's family and her relations arrive to join in the celebration.

At a prearranged moment the best man puts out the lights, and to the tune of the "candle-dance", three candles are lit and the bride is handed over to the bride-
[302] groom. He leads her out to the courtyard or to one of the outer rooms, where her hair is "put up" into a knot and her "head is tied in" with the married woman's bonnet. Therewith she is officially admitted to womanhood, and when she returns to the dance it will be as a woman "in her own right". Immediately upon her entry into the room somebody will shout "the bride is for sale!" and then the dance of the bride is on. After they have placed a coin — the price of the bride — on a plate, all men present dance round with her. Those who, on account of age or infirmity, are unable to dance, pay none the less, while the obliging best man dances their turn for them. The last man to dance with her is the bridegroom. He places a large sum of money on the plate already heaped with silver coins (it is the pin-money for the bride), makes a sudden whirl with his bride, and then both rush out of the room. They mount to the loft, where, set on the floor, a table laden with choice foods, a bottle of wine sweetened with honey, and the open bridal bed await them. They taste the food and sip the sweet wine; the bridegroom takes off one of his high boots and, with the words "I am your master", gently touches with it the forehead of his bride. Then together they pull up the ladder leading to the ground floor, and while the bride shyly turns away, the bridegroom slowly closes the door.

Downstairs, meanwhile, the dance and feasting continue. The celebration usually lasts until the break of dawn. In rich families, however, the celebration lasts as long as there is food and wine to serve. Wedding-ban-